However, in the revised Recruitment Rules, the provision of Departmental Examination has been dispensed with.

(b) Information is being collected.

World Bank project for primary education

357. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: .

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a newplan to achieve full primary education for all children by 2015 has been launched at the spring meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposed project prepared by the World Bank;

(c) whether at present 125 million children at the global level receive no education at all;

(d) if so, whether the Bank's Development Committee, comparising i 24 Finance Ministers, including India, approved the proposal; and

(e) if so, to what extent this project is likely to help India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [Dr. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) The Development Committee of the World Bank in its Spring Meeting held on april 21, 2002, has reaffirmed the commitment to achieve universal primary education by 2015 and eliminate gender disparities in education by 2005, to meet the Millenium Development Goal on gender equality in Primary and Secondary Education. The Action Plan decided in the meeting includes strengthening information systems and data based to ensure outcome focussed EFA monitoring, country-wise analysis on policies/ financing gaps, supporting capacity of countries to raise learning outcomes, mobilizing adequate resources including significant increase in external funding for primary education and identifying countries for initiating 'fast-tracks process to provide quick and incremental support to reach universal

primary completion by 2015. In the aforesaid meeting, it was brought out that about 125 million children all over the world are presently not enrolled in primary school.

(d) and (e) India has supported the plan for arriving at an international consensus to achieve primary education for all children by 2015. The Governent of India has introduced the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Bill in Parliament to make elementary education a Fundamental Right for all children in the age-group 6-14 years. It has also launched the natioal programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to provide eight years of quality elementary education to all such children by 2010. The allocation for elementary education has been also enhanced from Rs. 16,369 crores in Ninth Plan to Rs. 28,750 crores in the tenth Plan, the World Bank also proposes to scale up its resource transfer to the elementary education sector susbtantially during the coming years.

Schools under DPEP

358. SHRI K.M. KHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary schools operating in the country under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and the number of districts it is operating in, as on 31st March, 2002;

(b) whether there is a proposal to extend DPEP cover to all the districts of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is also a proposal to set up alternative schools under DPEP;

(e) if so, the number of such schools set up as on 31 st March, 2002; and

(f) the amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [Dr. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (f) The District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is being implemented in 273 districts of 18 States, namely, Assam, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat,